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For immediate release:

Oct. 14, 2008

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Virginia announces “Most Wanted” child support evaders

Nine “Most Wanted” parents owe more than half of a million dollars to their children

RICHMOND – Virginia’s nine most egregious child support evaders are profiled in the Virginia Department of Social Services’ (VDSS) recently released “Most Wanted” list, now available on the agency’s [Web site](#).

The latest online poster features eight men and one woman, all non-custodial parents, who owe a combined total of \$523,605 in past-due support to their children. The poster contains each person’s photograph, physical description, last known address, occupation and the amount of child support owed.

“We want parents to be financially responsible for their children,” said VDSS Commissioner Anthony Conyers Jr. “One in four children in Virginia depends on child support to live. Placing these individuals on our Web site is a visual reminder that providing children with consistent financial resources is critical to their success and our stability as a Commonwealth.”

The individuals profiled work in a variety of occupations and include a painter, car salesman and quality assurance inspector. Some of the parents featured owe debts ranging from \$23,304 for two children to \$177,401 for one child.

Many child support evaders try to elude authorities by moving out of state or overseas; however, when a non-custodial parent relocates, the child support order continues, and Virginia has reciprocal agreements with all states, U.S. territories and more than 25 countries. Virginia’s most recent list features parents whose last known addresses include Florida, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and the Carolinas.

Issuing the state’s “Most Wanted” list online is one of many tools Virginia uses to collect child support. Other methods include income withholding, freezing assets held by financial institutions, suspending driver’s licenses, booting vehicles, subpoenaing cell phone records, placing liens on assets and intercepting federal and state tax refunds.

“In the past, issuing ‘Most Wanted’ posters has proven effective in obtaining information from the public regarding the whereabouts, employment and financial situations of egregiously delinquent parents,” said VDSS Deputy Commissioner and Director of Child Support Enforcement Nick Young. “Virginia’s child support enforcement professionals – with the assistance of the public, the courts and law enforcement – have a unified commitment to tracking and apprehending individuals who fail to honor their financial obligations to their children.”

This most recent “Most Wanted” poster is the 21st list of child support evaders to be issued since the agency’s program began in 1989. Last year, DCSE collected a record \$629 million in child support benefiting one-quarter of the children in Virginia.

The “Most Wanted” list can be viewed at http://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/dcse/2008_most_wanted/index.html. If you have any information regarding the location or employment of these parents, or any person evading their child support obligations, please call toll free 1-800-257-9986.

More information about Virginia’s “Most Wanted” and the Child Support Enforcement Program can be found at <http://childsupport.virginia.gov>.

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The Virginia Department of Social Services administers social services programs, consistent with federal and state law and policy of the State Board of Social Services, through 120 local departments of social services throughout the state and its home office in Richmond. The VDSS mission is “People helping people triumph over poverty, abuse, and neglect to shape strong futures for themselves, their families and communities.”

Interviews are available upon request. For additional story ideas and information, contact Carla Harris, VDSS, (804) 726-7107 or carla.harris@dss.virginia.gov.